

Authorship and type specimens of *Uria mandtii* (Alcidae)

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Black Guillemots of the northern Arctic seas are usually separated subspecifically as *Cephus grylle mandtii* (e.g. Vaurie 1965, Cramp 1985, Nettleship 1996, Dickinson 2003). Citation of the author and date of the original description of this form are confused in the literature. The species-group name was attributed to Lichtenstein (1823) by most early authors (e.g. Keyserling & Blasius 1840: xcii, Schlegel 1844: cviii, Schlegel 1867: 18, Coues 1868: 72, Rey 1872: 157, Giebel 1877: 741). Coues *et al.* (1886: 82, 1895: 10) and Coues (1896; see also Ogilvie-Grant 1898: 584, and Sherborn 1928: 3849) suggested that the name should be attributed to Lichtenstein (*in* Mandt 1822). For unknown reasons, their correct view has been abandoned, and 20th-century authors (e.g. Allen *et al.* 1910: 30, Ridgway 1919: 739, Hartert 1921: 1776, Austin 1934, Peters 1934: 354, Dement'ev 1951: 203, Kozlova 1957: 73, Vaurie 1965: 514, Glutz von Blotzheim & Bauer 1982: 1091, Cramp 1985, Nettleship 1996: 711, Dickinson 2003: 154, Stepanyan 2003: 269) generally attributed the name to Mandt (1822) himself.

The name *mandtii*, as published in the binomen *Uria mandtii*, first appeared in the printed version of a dissertation defended at Berlin University in 1822 by Martin Wilhelm Mandt (1800–58; latinised as Martinus Guillemus Mandt), then a student of medicine in Berlin and subsequently physician at the court of Emperor Nicholas I (1796–1855) in St. Petersburg, Russia (see Mandt 1917, Erichsen 1936). Copies of this book survive at least in the following libraries: Deutsche Staatsbibliothek, Berlin, Germany (two copies); Cambridge University Library, Cambridge, MA, USA; København Universitets Bibliotek, Copenhagen, Denmark; Natural History Museum, London, UK; and Smithsonian Institution Libraries, Washington, DC, USA. The book thus meets the criteria for publication under Art. 8.1 of the *International code of zoological nomenclature* (ICZN 1999). The section in question reads as follows (// = new paragraph): 'Avium ..., quae quum nihil non cognitum exhibere videantur, hic tantum de ea quaedam subiiciam, quam ill Lichtenstein tanquam novam speciem, nomine designavit // *Uriae Mandtii*. // Humantissime mecum sequentes notas communicavit characteristics quibus insignitur: ...' (Mandt 1822: 30). The colon is followed by a diagnosis of the species. Mandt mentions explicitly in the text reprinted above, that 'Lichtenstein', i.e. Martin Hinrich Carl Lichtenstein (1780–1857), professor of zoology and Mandt's tutor at the Berlin University and also head of the Zoological Museum in Berlin, supplied him with both the name and the diagnosis of the new species. Following the *International code of zoological nomenclature* (ICZN 1999, Art. 50.1), Lichtenstein is thus the author of this nominal taxon, although the name was published in another author's work. Correct citation of the name is thus *Uria mandtii* M. H. C. Lichtenstein *in* Mandt, 1822, and its current taxonomic position: *Cephus grylle mandtii* (M. H. C. Lichtenstein *in* Mandt, 1822).

Lichtenstein (1823: 88) apparently did not consider Mandt's (1822) dissertation a publication and described the species anew, with the same name and a diagnosis very similar to that printed in Mandt (1822), but without reference to that work. Being based on the same type series as *Uria mandtii* Lichtenstein *in* Mandt (see below for relevant specimens), *Uria mandtii* Lichtenstein, 1823, is both a junior objective synonym and a junior homonym of *Uria mandtii* Lichtenstein *in* Mandt, 1822.

Both *Uria Mandtii* Lichteinstein *in* Mandt, 1822, and *Uria Mandtii* Lichtenstein, 1823, were based on three specimens collected by Mandt in 1821 at Spitsbergen (exact locality

unknown) and brought to Berlin (see Mandt 1822, Lichtenstein 1823: 88). Lichtenstein (1854: 105) listed three specimens of *Uria Mandtii* from 'Spitzbergen' in the Museum für Naturkunde (ZMB), Berlin, Germany. Only two of these were registered in the *Sammlungs-Katalog* of the ZMB under inventory nos. ZMB 14416–417. I found only one of these syntypes (ZMB 14416) in the ZMB in 2007, the other being probably lost. The third syntype was forwarded by Lichtenstein to the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie (now: Naturalis; RMNH), Leiden, Netherlands, between 1854 and 1867, when this specimen was already mentioned by Schlegel (1867: 19; cf. Coues 1868: 72). It was not listed in the relevant catalogue of avian types at the RMNH (Hoek Ostende *et al.* 1997), because the specimen was not recognised as a type at the time, but is still present there (catalogued as RMNH. AVES.91009; S. van der Mije *in litt.* 2009).

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